TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

January 31, 2003 LB 359

the voter must mail in with the ballot a copy of a valid identification. Also, when the voter mails in his or her voter registration card, he or she can mail in a copy of a valid identification with the registration card, and then that way it avoids all that additional information when voting for the first time. So the idea behind this is when you register to vote for the first time you need to be able to produce identification, either then or at the time of voting, whether it be by ballot at the polls or whether it be by absentee ballot. And that is the essence of this bill, and I would be glad to answer any questions that you might have. I might mention that somebody just raised this question off the floor about punch card machines, and we're very fortunate in Nebraska that we don't have any of those punch card machines, and really haven't had them for years. We've been ahead of the curve on that. the only thing that we have are these scanner machines and hand-counted ballots. Those are the only two types mechanisms that we have. Thank you.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Chair would recognize Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Schimek, again a couple questions, if I may. On page 3 there's some new language related to driver's license numbers or supplying the last four digits of your Social Security number, and this is when you apply to register to vote? Is that what...is that when you supply this information?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: This is when you register to vote in person, and then there are also provisions about when you register by mail. But, yes, the first time you register to vote, either you have to provide that identification or, if you're registering by mail and don't provide it then, you have to provide it at the polling place.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: And this is for any registration, I believe, after January 1 of 2003.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. And if you come to register and you